

# The Book Of Revelation

## Study 70

### Triumphant Saints

#### *Revelation 14:1-5 (NKJV)*

<sup>1</sup> *Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.*

<sup>2</sup> *And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.*

<sup>3</sup> *They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.*

<sup>4</sup> *These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.*

<sup>5</sup> *And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God.*

Our society loves winners.

Whether in politics, business, entertainment, sports, or war, we idolize those who succeed.

On the other hand, we do not tolerate losers.

Coaches who lose are fired; players who lose are traded; executives who fail are replaced; politicians who fail are voted out of office.

Our heroes are those who overcome all obstacles and triumph in the end.

While not at all endorsing the world's superficial definition of success, the Bible nevertheless speaks of the Christian life in triumphant terms

#### *Romans 8:37 (NKJV)*

<sup>37</sup> *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

In his first epistle John wrote;

#### *1 John 5:4-5 (NKJV)*

<sup>4</sup> *For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.*

<sup>5</sup> *Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?*

In His letter to the Corinthians Paul writes;

#### *1 Corinthians 15:57 (NKJV)*

<sup>57</sup> *But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Even being imprisoned, abandoned, and facing imminent execution, Paul could still pen the following victorious epitaph;

#### *2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NKJV)*

<sup>7</sup> *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

<sup>8</sup> *Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

Listen believers triumphs and victories in this life are incomplete and marred by setbacks and defeats.

The world, the flesh and the devil take their toll on our best efforts.

The same Apostle Paul who ended his life in victorious triumph earlier described his Christian experience in the following mournful terms;

**Romans 7:14-24 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> *For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.*

<sup>15</sup> *For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.*

<sup>16</sup> *If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good.*

<sup>17</sup> *But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.*

<sup>18</sup> *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.*

<sup>19</sup> *For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.*

<sup>20</sup> *Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.*

<sup>21</sup> *I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.*

<sup>22</sup> *For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.*

<sup>23</sup> *But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*

<sup>24</sup> *O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*

Abraham the friend of God, twice lied about Sarah, claiming she was his sister and not his wife  
(*Gen 12:11-20; 20:1-18*)

David, the man after God's heart, was guilty of adultery and murder  
(*2Sam 11:1-17; 12:9*)

Peter the leader and spokesman of the twelve, cravenly denied three times that he even knew Jesus  
(*Matt 26:69-75*)

Believer's greatest triumphs are flawed because, "there is no man who does not sin, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins"

**1 Kings 8:46a (NKJV)**

<sup>46</sup> *"When they sin against You (for there is no one who does not sin),*

**Ecclesiastes 7:20 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> *For there is not a just man on earth who does good And does not sin.*

There is not one who can say;

**Proverbs 20:9 (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> *Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"?*

The opening verses of Revelation 14 introduce the most triumphant group of men the world will ever know.

Scripture describes other faithful, godly, uncompromising, committed men, such as Joseph, Daniel, and Paul. But never will there be such a large group at one time.

They will emerge from the worst holocaust in history, the Tribulation, battle weary but triumphant; They will be like a 144,000 Daniels.

**Chapter 7** introduced this remarkable group of men.

After the horrific events of the sixth seal (6:12-17), the terror-stricken people of the earth will cry out *“to the mountains and to the rocks, fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”* (6:16-17)

By that point in the Tribulation, the world will have experienced the unimaginable horrors of the first six seals. There will have been widespread wars, severe famines, deadly plagues, and terrible earthquakes and other natural disasters, all of which will result in millions of deaths.

Sin will run rampant and unchecked over the earth, fueled by Satan and his demon hosts, both those cast from heaven with him (12:9) and those formerly bound demons who will be released (9:1-11, 14-19)

Antichrist will unleash the most terrible persecution the world has ever known, and countless thousands of Christians and Jews will be slaughtered.

In the light of that horrifying, unimaginable situation, and the devastating trumpet and bowl judgments to follow, it will seem impossible for anyone to survive.

It is against that backdrop that the 144,000 are introduced. They will survive both Satan’s wrath and persecution and God’s judgments on the sinful world.

Nothing will be able to harm them, because God will seal them (7:3-4).

They will be like the remnant of Malachi’s day;

**Malachi 3:16-17 (NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> *Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.*

<sup>17</sup> *“They shall be Mine,” says the LORD of hosts, “On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him.”*

Throughout history God has protected those who belong to Him. And He will do it now during this horrific time on earth.

**Psalms 37:39-40 (NKJV)**

<sup>39</sup> *But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in the time of trouble.*

<sup>40</sup> *And the LORD shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, And save them, Because they trust in Him.*

**Chapter 14** is a bright contrast to the darkness of **chapter 13**, which describes Satan (the dragon) , Antichrist, the final false prophet, deception, the unredeemed, idolatry, and the mark of the beast.

**Chapter 14** describes the Lamb, angels, redeemed saints, genuine worship, and those sealed by God. In **Chapter 14** there is truth, righteousness, purity, and praise.

This passage yields important practical principles for triumphant Christian living.

Seven such features will characterize the 144,000;

Power,  
Praise,  
Purity,  
Partisanship,  
Purpose,  
Precision,  
Perfection.

## POWER

*Revelation 14:1 (NKJV)*

<sup>1</sup> *Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.*

The phrase **I looked, and behold** or its equivalent appears frequently in Revelation to introduce startling, dramatic events.

What arrested John's attention was the awe-inspiring sight of **the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion**.

**Revelation** depicts the **Lamb** as the Slain, Glorified, Exalted, Redeemer, and Shepherd of His people, and the Lord of Lords and King of Kings

The appearance of the **Lamb** on **Mount Zion** is a monumental moment in redemptive history.

The Psalmist wrote of this moment:

*Psalm 2:6-9 (NKJV)*

<sup>6</sup> *"Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion."*

<sup>7</sup> *"I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.*

<sup>8</sup> *Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.*

<sup>9</sup> *You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.' "*

**Mount Zion** is described in *Psalms* also;

*Psalm 48:2 (NKJV)*

<sup>2</sup> *Beautiful in elevation, The joy of the whole earth, Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, The city of the great King.*

And also in *Isaiah*;

*Isaiah 24:23 (NKJV)*

<sup>23</sup> *Then the moon will be disgraced And the sun ashamed; For the LORD of hosts will reign On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem And before His elders, gloriously.*

The fulfillment of those predictions has now arrived.

Now here He is with the 144,000 with Him on the Mount.

The 144,000 will be a group unique in redemptive history.

*John Phillips writes;*

*No other age has produced a company like this, a veritable army of militant believers marching unscathed through every form of danger.*

*It has been theirs to defy the dragon, to bait the Beast, and to give the lie to the false prophet.*

*Their calling has been to preach the gospel from the housetops when even to name the name of Christ called for the most dreadful penalties.*

*They have been surrounded, these latter-day Jobs, with impenetrable hedges able to laugh to scorn all the grand inquisitor of hell.*

*They have walked the streets in broad daylight, careless of the teeth gnashing rage of their would be torturers and assassins, true witnesses of Jehovah in the most terrible era of the history of mankind.*

*The devil knows about this coming band of conquerors, and writhes already in an agony of anticipation.*

*(Exploring Revelation, rev. [Chicago: Moody, 1987; reprint, Neptune, N.J.: Loizeaux, 1991], 179-180)*

The text also describes the 144,000 as **having His ( the Lamb's) name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.**

Unbelievers will receive the mark of the beast; the 144,000 will have the mark of God placed on their foreheads **(7:3)** for their protection

Satan and the unbelieving world will desperately seek to kill these powerful, fearless preachers of the gospel. God , however, will not permit them to be harmed.

Despite Satan's best efforts, all 144,000 will survive to meet Christ on Mount Zion at His second coming.

They will enter the Millennial kingdom as living men.

And most likely they will continue their evangelistic work throughout that thousand year period.

The children born to the many believers will need to make their choice also to follow Christ. To walk with Him. Each person must decide.

And not all will believe, in fact there will be enough unregenerate people by the end of the Millennium for Satan to lead a world-wide rebellion against Christ's rule;

***Revelation 20:7-10 (NKJV)***

<sup>7</sup> *Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison*

<sup>8</sup> *and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.*

<sup>9</sup> *They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.*

<sup>10</sup> *The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

Thus the Scripture speaks of salvation during the Millennium;

***Isaiah 60:3 (NKJV)***

<sup>3</sup> *The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.*

***Zechariah 8:23 (NKJV)***

<sup>23</sup> *"Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you." ' "*

A salvation the 144,000 will no doubt proclaim.

The story of these victorious survivors illustrates the divine side of triumphant Christian living: God will preserve His own.

The 144,000 will be living proof of the promises found in *Psalm 91:5-16*

*Psalm 91:5-16 (NKJV)*

<sup>5</sup> *You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day,*

<sup>6</sup> *Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.*

<sup>7</sup> *A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you.*

<sup>8</sup> *Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.*

<sup>9</sup> *Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place,*

<sup>10</sup> *No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;*

<sup>11</sup> *For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.*

<sup>12</sup> *In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

<sup>13</sup> *You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.*

<sup>14</sup> *"Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name.*

<sup>15</sup> *He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.*

<sup>16</sup> *With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation."*

God will protect His own and bring them triumphantly through their trials.

That is true both of survivors on earth, like the 144,000, and of martyrs in heaven, like those depicted in *6:9-11* and *7:9-17*.

Jesus promised:

*John 6:37 (NKJV)*

<sup>37</sup> *All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.*

*John 10:28-29 (NKJV)*

<sup>28</sup> *And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*

<sup>29</sup> *My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.*

*1 Peter 1:3-5 (NKJV)*

<sup>3</sup> *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

<sup>4</sup> *to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,*

<sup>5</sup> *who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Here is how to summarize it all up!

*Romans 8:31-39 (NKJV)*

<sup>31</sup> *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

<sup>32</sup> *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*

<sup>33</sup> *Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.*

<sup>34</sup> *Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.*

<sup>35</sup> *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

<sup>36</sup> *As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."*

<sup>37</sup> *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

<sup>38</sup> *For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,*

<sup>39</sup> *nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**Next time we will look at the next feature that of Praise!!**